

CONFIDENTIAL

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United States Senate

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
 1100 17th St., N.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20036
 (202) 293-2400

MINNESOTA OFFICE
 1000 Hennepin Ave., S.E.
 Minneapolis, MN 55403
 (612) 338-1100

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mmB
1pradio

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a former broadcaster, I respect the Commission's goal of promoting diversity in radio ownership. However, I understand that technical studies have demonstrated that under the current proposal new low power FM stations will receive a great deal of interference from existing broadcasters. If the Commission implements the current proposal, these new stations will not be heard throughout their intended service areas, and licensees who have invested their resources to build the necessary facilities for these stations will be adversely affected as well.

Moreover, I am concerned that this proposal may have a significant adverse impact upon radio's transition to digital radio service. The proponents of In-Band, On Channel digital radio have spent considerable time developing their systems based on current FCC standards. In my view, any reduction of the second-adjacent channel spacing restrictions could seriously harm radio broadcasters in their transition to digital service. The Commission should encourage alternatives for increasing diversity of ownership without infringing upon the radio frequency spectrum.

Lastly, I believe the Federal Communications Commission's proposal to create hundreds of new low power FM radio stations will hinder the ability of full-power radio stations to continue to serve their communities particularly in time of emergency and natural disasters. As you know, Minnesota's radio stations have a long history of unique and vital public service contributions.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Paul S. ...

Rod Grams
United States Senator

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